

ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 13

CHICAGO, JULY, 1928

No. 1

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F. E. Davidson
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MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

Held June 26, 1928

The thirty-first annual meeting of the Illinois Society of Architects was held in the Ballroom of the Drake, June 26, 1928. There were two hundred forty-six (246) ladies and gentlemen present.

The meeting was called to order by President Stanhope. It was moved by Mr. Palmer, duly seconded and carried that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be dispensed with.

President Stanhope read letters from Mr. Alfred Granger of Chicago; Mr. J. W. Gaddis of Vincennes, Ind.; Mr. Clarence Buckingham of Jacksonville, Ill.; regretting that they could not be present.

President Stanhope then spoke of the accomplishments of the Society during the past year. Also thanking the Officers and Directors and Editors for their co-operation with him, and made several recommendations for the work of the Society in the coming year.

The Hamilton Club Quartet was introduced and entertained the gathering with songs at intervals during the program. Also Mr. Alfred E. Galley entertained with vocal solos.

At the request of President Stanhope all people assembled in the hall stood for one minute with bowed heads in memory of Mr. Christian A. Eckstrom and Mr. Walter E. Perry, Society members, who died during the year.

The President called upon the Secretary and the Chairmen of the various Committees who gave a resume of their annual reports.

The President requested the report of Tellers on Annual Election, which was as follows:

"We, the Tellers appointed by the Board of Directors of the Illinois Society of Architects, June 26, 1928, beg to report the result of the election as follows:

Howard J. White, President.
Robert S. DeGolyer, First Vice-President.
George B. Helmle, Second Vice-President.
Robert C. Ostergren, Treasurer.
Walter A. McDougall, Secretary.
H. L. Palmer, Financial Secretary.

Directors for Three Years:

Frank E. Davidson.
Leon E. Stanhope.

Board of Arbitration:

N. Max Dunning.
Elmer C. Jensen.
Joseph C. Llewellyn.
George C. Nimmons.
Dwight H. Perkins.
Irving K. Pond.
Richard E. Schmidt.

(Signed) R. G. PIERCE.
JOSEPH G. LUDGIN.
JOSEPH COHEN."

President Stanhope declared the officers elected as reported by the Tellers and introduced Mr. Howard J. White as the new President, presented him with the gavel. Mr. White returned the gavel to Mr. Stanhope with the request that he act as Toastmaster throughout the remainder of the evening.

President White addressed the meeting, pledging himself to his fullest efforts in the interest of the profession, and spoke of the range of knowledge required by an Architect, the growth of Chicago, prophesied more wonderful growth in the future.

Mr. M. D. Miller, manager of the new Business Department, Lake Shore Trust & Savings Bank, spoke regarding the annual competition held by the bank in awarding a gold medal to the best new building and the best alteration in the north central district.

Mr. Ernest R. Graham gave a very interesting talk on the new Civic Opera House in Chicago, illustrating his talk with lantern slides, showing the new Opera House and comparisons with other opera houses of its rank.

It was moved by Mr. Ferrenz, seconded by Mr. Palmer, that a vote of thanks be given Mr. Graham. Motion carried and a rising vote of thanks was given Mr. Graham.

The meeting was adjourned.

WALTER A. McDougall, Secretary.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 1928-1929

Budget Committee:

Secretary
Financial Secretary
Treasurer

Building Valuations Committee:

Robert C. Ostergren, Chairman
Frank E. Davidson
Emery Stanford Hall
Byron H. Jillson
Richard E. Schmidt
H. B. Wheelock
Walter A. McDougall, Secretary

Cooperation with Consulting Engineers:

Tirrell J. Ferrenz

Credentials Committee:

H. B. Wheelock, Chairman
 H. L. Palmer
 Walter A. McDougall

Committee on Education:

Alfred Granger, Chairman
 George C. Nimmons
 Hubert Burnham
 Prof. James M. White

Committee on Entertainment:

F. E. Davidson, Chairman
 J. R. Fugard
 E. H. Jillson
 H. L. Palmer
 Leon F. Urbain

Legislative Committee:

Robert C. Ostergren, Chairman
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 Frank O. DeMone
 George B. Helmle
 John A. Holabird

Materials and Methods Committee:

Tirrell J. Ferrenz, Chairman
 John J. Davey
 Stanley D. Fairclough
 Raphael N. Friedman
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 Martin R. Carpenter
 Carl Hauber

Publication Committee:

Emery Stanford Hall, Chairman
 Joseph C. Llewellyn, Vice-Chairman
 Frank E. Davidson
 Leon E. Stanhope

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 N. Max Dunning
 Arthur Woltersdorf

Representing the Society in the American Society for Testing Materials:

Tirrell J. Ferrenz, Chairman

State Building Code:

Richard E. Schmidt, Chairman
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 George C. Nimmons

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Thos. E. Tallmadge, Chairman
 Charles L. Morgan
 Allen B. Pond

Legal Service Committee:

Board of Directors

Lumber Practice Committee:

Tirrell J. Ferrenz, Chairman

Resolutions Committee:

Irving K. Pond, Chairman
 Alfred Granger
 John Holabird
 H. L. Palmer
 Richard G. Pierce

Directors to Architectural Exhibition League:

To be announced later.

THE BULLETIN

With this issue the Bulletin enters its thirteenth year as one of the official publications of the Illinois Society of Architects.

During the past year the labor of editing the Bulletin has been divided by the editorial staff, each alternate issue being handled by one of the co-editors. It has always been the policy of the editorial staff to publish in its columns such matter as directly affects the business side of the profession, leaving quite largely questions relating to ethics and education to the national organization, the A. I. A.

We know that the Bulletin is read by members who can assist the editorial staff in making the Bulletin more readable if they would contribute short articles on timely topics. It is no small task to collect and prepare the necessary copy for an eight-page issue, containing approximately 8,000 words, and make it really worth reading. The labor of proofreading and other clerical work incident to the publication is more or less mechanical, but requires time and attention. The editor has on many occasions pointed out that the Bulletin of the Society is your bulletin, its columns are open to every member to discuss any matter in which the profession may be interested, the only requirement being that articles must be signed.

The credit for editorial matter appearing in the Bulletin without the signature of members of the editorial staff must be charged or credited to the entire staff who jointly assume responsibility for editorial matter published that is not signed by the initials of the author. The only communications that should be charged to the officers or Board of Directors of the Society are those so credited.

The Bulletin can be made of greater value to the Society if members would assist the editorial staff. Our members should remember that the editorial staff is not on the payroll of the Society and that the labor of editing the Bulletin is a labor of love and is a part of their contribution as professional men to their profession.

It may be noted that the success of the Illinois Society Bulletin was indirectly the cause of the issuing of monthly publications by our sister societies in Indiana and Michigan whose problems are so nearly our own, and if our members can only realize what the Society gives in return for their small annual dues, they will probably come to the conclusion that they are actually securing more for the small sum invested than can be secured in any other way. In addition to receiving the Bulletin each month, each member receives a copy of the Yearly Handbook of the Society and a free ticket to the annual banquet of the Society, providing his dues are paid on the date of mailing out these tickets. It would appear obvious that as a financial proposition the Society is actually returning to its members a greater return than the amount received in the form of yearly dues. The remarkable thing is that the Society is in a sound financial condition and has a very respectable bank balance.

If the Bulletin is not an inspiration, let it be recorded that it is ever trying to faithfully record the work of the Society and on occasion offers suggestions for the bettering of conditions as affecting the practice of the profession.

EDITORS OF THE BULLETIN FOR 1928-1929

At the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Society on July 10, Mr. Ralph C. Harris, who for some years has served as one of the editors of the Bulletin, declined re-election. The Board thereupon by formal vote elected Mr. Leon E. Stanhope to succeed Mr. Harris as one of the co-editors of the Bulletin and as a member of the Publication Committee; Editor Davidson being re-elected for the thirteenth consecutive year.

At the suggestion of the editorial staff, the Board authorized the passing of the August issue. The September issue will be a combination August and September number and will be edited by Editor Stanhope; the editorial staff at the Board meeting agreeing by consent of the Board to the following division of the year's work:

Editor Davidson is to have charge of the July, October, December, February, April and June issues. Editor Stan-

hope will edit the September, November, January, March and May issues.

Communications intended for any special issue should be mailed direct to the editor who will have charge of that issue.

ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT LEON E. STANHOPE

The Illinois Society of Architects closes tonight its thirty-first year as the Senior State Society of our nation. A year filled with activities on the part of your officers and committees. Much has been accomplished and still much remains to be done.

The standard of our membership has been raised, our financial condition is sound, our members are serving with distinction in various civic positions, serving for the most part without sufficient, if any, compensation. Our Bulletin has a wide circulation and its influence is felt far beyond the borders of our state. Our headquarters in the Burnham building is recognized as the center of architectural information in our city.

The current issue of the Bulletin will print the Committee reports and tonight I hope each Committee Chairman will make a two-minute talk on his committee's work for the past year, giving any recommendations that he may have for the coming year's work. I shall not attempt to make this address a committee of committee reports, although I will briefly touch upon some phases of the past year's work. Many of the items in the reports leave little to show this year for the time and work involved. It will require a longer period before the benefits accruing will be apparent.

I note numerous articles appearing in the architectural periodicals, the daily press and in our Bulletin on the subject of collective publicity, or advertising, for the architectural profession. This problem is one that must now be faced and a proper solution determined.

Another important problem that profession must consider is the regulation of the tendency to standardize architectural design, not only in speculative buildings, but business buildings and shop fronts. This practice persisted in would make our Main Streets the same from Maine to Texas.

Unless the individuality of each of our communities is preserved the slogan "See America First" will be reversed to read "See America Last" and our vacation bent population will seek relief abroad where they will see architecture in its proper setting in contrast to our standardized Spanish houses in New Jersey and Dutch Colonial in Florida with a multitude of standardized Main Streets between both places, all with identical copyrighted designs for chain stores, sandwich shops, filling stations and refreshment stands.

No building, however humble its use may be, is too insignificant to be made attractive.

This fact is recognized by the American Civic Association of Washington, D. C., and also the Art Center of New York City. A competition for wayside refreshment stands has been held and the designs are now published.

The influence of architecture on a community, on a street or a nation, is not to be doubted. One beautiful building is but a stimulus; others follow in due course. Of course our ideas of what is beautiful in one age as compared with ideas of beauty held by peoples of other ages differ radically, a fact nowhere better illustrated than in the individuality of the architecture of today.

Architectural service properly rendered and appreciated is a great asset in the prosperity of a community.

I wish to express my appreciation at this time, of the work of the Lake Shore Trust & Savings Bank in presenting an annual Gold Medal for the best design in the North Central District; to Henry Ford in his restoration of the Wayside Inn; to John D. Rockefeller Jr. in his restoration of Williamsburg, Virginia, and to Professor Thomas E. O'Donnell, Assistant Professor of Architecture in the University of Illinois, for his excellent work in preserving the individuality of the Early Architecture of the Middle West, in his published writings on the subject.

The Editorial Staff of the Bulletin, Frank E. Davidson and Ralph C. Harris, deserve special mention for the excellent work they have done from month to month. Each

taking alternate months. This arrangement, carried on the past two years, allows two months to each of the Editors for the preparation of each issue. The unfortunate feature of the Bulletin is that our members do not contribute articles as they should. I still have hopes they will show their appreciation of our monthly paper by flooding our Editors, who I hope may continue the work, with original articles of interest to the Society and the profession.

A note of warning has been sounded by the attorney for the Public Action Committee in which he directs the attention of our members to the Tentative Draft of The Suggested Uniform Mechanics Lien Law. This has been amplified by the Editorial Staff of the Bulletin in the June issue and a letter on the subject also directed to President Hammond of the American Institute of Architects by Editor F. E. Davidson. Ours is a State Society. Our work on this subject must be through our legislature at Springfield. Nevertheless, I take this occasion to advise our members that the tentative draft makes no provision for a lien for architects' plans and specifications.

The position of President involves a great deal of work accompanied by much concern. The concern is always occasioned by the knowledge of the limited possibilities for constructive activities for the advancement of the profession and the limitations that bind you to a small measure of accomplishment.

It is with regret that I lay down the responsibilities I accepted two years ago as President of this society. Personal ambition would tempt me to continue but a strong sense of duty to the society has convinced me that rotation in office after a customary tenure is necessary to maintain a strong and virile society.

As a Past President, the Society will find me ever ready for service to uphold the high standards of our profession. Presidents come and go, as do your other officers, but in the long run an organization exists by certain well established principles and it is always in order to recur to and emphasize those principles.

In closing, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation for the loyal co-operation on the part of my Fellow Officers, Directors, Committees, our two Editors, my friends of the press, our Financial Secretary and our Miss Dallack.

ADDRESS OF PRES. ELECT HOWARD J. WHITE

I am deeply sensible of the honor which has been conferred upon me in my election as President of the Illinois Society of Architects. Much good has been accomplished by our Society and there is much to be done. My fellow officers are all men possessed of sterling qualities, well versed with the work ahead of us. On my part I am ready to pledge my fullest efforts in the interest of our profession, and I hope that when my term of office comes to an end we can look back upon a record of genuine progress.

* * * * *

The architect of today must be a versatile and well posted individual, capable of solving the many situations that are presented to him in the course of his practice. It is this variety that makes our profession so intensely interesting and absorbing. What will be our next commission? A residence, a warehouse, a gymnasium, a hospital, a department store, or an office building, a museum or a mausoleum?

The very requirements of our profession make it imperative that an architect be never satisfied with his knowledge but that he be forever studying and grasping new ideas in order to cope with the demands of the complex scheme of things in which we live.

In Illinois, and in Chicago, where such great building development is taking place, the architect even more than elsewhere is put on his mettle to keep abreast in the march of progress.

We are doing things here which will surpass any other city in the world, and the future holds a bright prospect for all of us.

What an architect should be was written down by an architect of old, Marcus Vitruvius, and in reading what he wrote a day or two ago, I was struck with the similarity to the requirements of present day architecture.

This is what he said, "Architecture is a science arising out of many other sciences and adorned with much and

varied learning. Practice and theory are its parents. Practice is the frequent and continued contemplation of the mode of executing any given work. Theory is the result of that reasoning which demonstrates and explains that the material wrought has been so converted as to answer the end proposed.

"Wherefore the mere practical architect is not able to assign sufficient reasons for the forms he adopts and the theoretic architect also fails, grasping the shadow instead of the substance. He who is theoretic as well as practical, is therefore doubly armed; able not only to prove the propriety of his design, but equally so to carry it into execution.

"An architect should be ingenious, and apt in the acquisition of knowledge. Deficient in either of these qualities, he cannot be a perfect master. He should be a skilled draughtsman, versed in geometry and optics, expert at figures, acquainted with history, informed on the principles of natural and moral philosophy, somewhat of a musician, not ignorant of the sciences both of law and physic, nor of the motions, laws and relations to each other of the heavenly bodies."

These constitute a wide range of subjects, but our present day architect should be familiar with them all and in addition must of necessity be master of many things growing out of our modern life. He must know finances, the very basis upon which sound building is executed. He must know land values and must be a student of the growth of cities, a fluctuating and extremely important factor in metropolitan building operations.

I was born in Chicago and have lived here all of my life, and if the progress of the past is prophetic of the future we are truly on the eve of more wonderful developments. When I started work as a draughtsman there were no electric cars, automobiles, electric lights, radios, air craft, steel skeleton buildings, nor many other things which now seem commonplace. Architecture and building have taken their part in this development and I am sure will continue to do so in the future.

Let us all strive to measure up to our opportunities, and to interpret more perfectly every day of our lives the highest principles of architecture.

ADDRESS OF ERNEST R. GRAHAM

at Annual Meeting, Illinois Society of Architects

It is a pleasure indeed to address this body of architects. You have done exemplary work in holding aloft the traditions of architecture in our state, and the firm purpose with which you have always carried on in the past indicates to me that your efforts in the future in the interests of architecture will be whole-hearted and unstinted.

History has shown that the arts have always flourished after a great crisis, and this has been notably true after the last great war. So tremendous has been the development of this country since the war that we are today the greatest creditor nation of the world, and never before has there been such opportunity for the development of the arts, and especially of architecture.

I believe I am not far from the mark when I say that the building activities of the United States will surpass those of the world, and it is truly difficult to comprehend the opportunities that we architects have for the realization of even our noblest ideas and conceptions. My earnest hope is that our architects will measure up to the great growth which our country is enjoying, and likewise to the heavy responsibilities which fall upon us.

A natural outgrowth of great commercial and industrial development is a more intensive devotion to the arts. Chicago herself is an excellent example of this. After the industrial prosperity of the past thirty years, there came quite logically to our people an artistic consciousness, and the result of this may be seen in our splendid art galleries, museums, theaters, and the like. Our Grand Opera Company has become even a national institution in the past few years, and our people have supported it so well and so unselfishly that it has become one of the city's outstanding artistic assets.

With all its great success, the Opera has been only a

tenant and without a permanent home. It is now about to have a home of its own—and it is the new Chicago Opera House that I am taking as my subject this evening—a subject in which there is, I believe, a great deal of public interest at the present time.

The realization of this project is due largely to the inspiration and genius of one man, Mr. Samuel Insull. As President of the Chicago Civic Opera Company for the past ten years, Mr. Insull, in his role of guiding the destiny of our Grand Opera, recognized that the deficit which piled up each year could not long continue and that the Opera was on a very unstable footing. Certainly it could not be operated in such a fashion, nor could the people of the City be expected to meet this deficit every year.

This was the problem with which the Chicago Civic Opera Company was confronted, and its solution was found in Mr. Insull's idea to make our Grand Opera self-sustaining by building above the New Opera House a high office building for the purpose of revenue. Thus the profits of the office building investment would be used to cover the deficit of the Opera, and the surplus built up as the years go on would be used for the development of Opera and for the fostering of all branches of music.

The plan includes not only the artistic and efficient production of Grand Opera, but goes further, in that it will provide for the training and development of students who look forward to a musical career, and so we will develop our own artists in Chicago. It is for this reason that in conjunction with the Grand Opera House there is a Theater, to be known as the Civic Theater, for the production of short operas and for the training of students. These several phases of the future program will undoubtedly help to make Chicago a musical center.

Some three years ago, after a decision was made to proceed with the undertaking, the first active step to be taken was the consideration of available sites. It was evident that a piece of property, 400 feet long and about 200 feet wide, would be necessary; and the acquiring of a tract of this area in the heart of the city, which would provide accessibility to transportation, architectural impressiveness, and size and shape for the practical requirements of the plan, presented a difficult problem.

The building had to be well located not only for the Opera but for the Office Building as well, and in choosing the location for the Opera, full recognition had to be given to the fact that the patrons of Opera are made up not merely of box-holders but of people in all walks of life in the City's population.

After nearly two years' study of various sites by Mr. Stanley Field and myself, Mr. Insull proposed the site which was finally selected, and it proved to best measure up to all the requirements of the undertaking. A glance at the map of the City will readily reveal its accessibility to all modes of transportation and its proximity to the center of the City's population, which is at Roosevelt Road and Western Avenue. The location of the Opera House is in the center of a district in Chicago which is developing rapidly. Major building operations are taking place on all sides, and the importance of this district, while yet in a formative stage, seems already assured.

The many requirements of the plan, and the necessity of an impressive and handsome design appropriate for an Opera House and Office Building, the location on the River involving complicated schemes of water-proofing and foundations, and the many problems of construction, seemed to us to constitute a task which called for all of our resources, and gave us great pride in the undertaking.

The architectural solution of the building had some very interesting beginnings.

Several years ago it was tentatively proposed in the City Plan to locate an Opera House at the junction of the north and east branches of the Chicago River. This location, admirable in some ways, was more adaptable for a low building which would house only the Opera. The scheme was no doubt abandoned because of the large amount of money which would have to be subscribed by the people for its execution and operation.

The combination of the Opera House and Office Building was without precedent, and the justification for this departure from all past examples comes from the fact that our

Opera, so planned and so operated, will be self-sustaining and perpetual.

The requirements of this dual purpose structure had to be met squarely.

The Opera requirements included a great area for a stage, auditorium, foyers, dressing rooms, rehearsal rooms and vast storage space; a smaller area for the Civic Theater; a great height for the stage for fly doors and grid-iron floors (equivalent in height to 12 stories), as well as great depth for the traps and lifts in the stage floor.

The Office Building requirements included the providing of 740,000 square feet of rentable area, this being the amount of space necessary to bring sufficient net income to support the Opera. This huge office building presented many difficult structural and mechanical problems, which were made increasingly difficult by reason of the Opera and Theater below.

We began our studies with schemes which faced the stage east and west, or north and south; but it was readily apparent that the depth of the stage, plus the depth of the auditorium, plus the depth of the foyers, would make the stage face south.

The planning of the Opera itself was burdened with the problem of planning a great building above it, and called for convenient access to the Opera, and at the same time convenient access to the Office Building.

Our first studies were based upon an obvious plan for an Office Building with a great interior court with offices around all the street fronts, and with the Opera facilities placed partly at the bottom of the court and partly under the Office Building. The plan fulfilled all the conditions except that it involved the expensive construction of carrying the office building over the auditorium.

After many plans were studied and in turn rejected, we hit upon a plan which placed the Opera House at the base of an open court at the River side, and thus eliminated the extremely difficult and expensive steel construction involved in supporting the office building over the auditorium. The plan immediately met with favor, but as it resulted in loss of rentable area, it naturally led to the placing of a tower on the Wacker Drive side of sufficient size to make up the loss in rentable area.

The architectural composition resulting from this scheme presented extremely interesting possibilities. It gave a broken and interesting form to the great mass of the building and put the Opera in the skyline; this, in a day of skyscrapers and in a city of them, seemed entirely favorable to us, and we developed the idea with all its peculiar conditions.

It gave on the west, or River side, a great court 260 feet high, which held within these two wings the structure of the Opera, stage and auditorium, rehearsals rooms, dressing rooms, coaching rooms, wigmakers, scenes, and the whole list of facilities which go along to make the organization complete, were grouped around the stage and over the auditorium, and gave—except for windows to begin the upper stories—a great blank wall rising from the dock along the River, thus forming an unusual and striking contrast to the many-windowed building rising about it.

The storage areas arranged between the trusses and under the auditorium made it possible to put on the premises, and accessible to the stage by the most modern lifts and elevating platforms, the drops, sets and properties for practically a whole season's repertoire. This will permit a quick change of the program as is demanded in emergency, with no cancellations or waiting by the patrons.

The major steps in the development of the studies for the Opera facilities were exhibited and criticized by the Operating and Technical Staff of the Opera, and after incorporating in a complete set of drawings all the known requirements and ideas, it was arranged in the summer of 1927 to make an extended tour of Europe for the purpose of studying all of the great opera houses. This tour was made by members of the Staff of the Opera and of our organization, and the result of our trip was a large collection of helpful facts. We found especially interesting material in the houses at Charlottenburg, Stuttgart, and Milan, and upon our return a number of interesting improvements were made in our plans.

The form and size of the auditorium in both the Opera

House and the Civic Theater were determined principally by their functions, namely, visibility or sight lines, and hearing or acoustics, both well considered for a capacity of 3600 people for the Opera and 800 people for the theater.

The architectural design was suggested by the form thus arrived at and made the work of the acoustical engineers comparatively simple.

Needless to say the structural problems of the building in the curving balcony and unusual forms of the auditorium, became quite involved, and demanded a great deal of ingenious engineering and delicate calculations, all of which had to be woven together firmly into the architectural design.

The plans of the Opera as finally developed included a handsome Grand Foyer, which is approached both from Wacker Drive and from Madison Street. This foyer is treated in a modernized French Renaissance and will have walls of Tavernelle Rose and Breche marble, and columns of Tavernelle Rose marble with an ornamental plaster ceiling which is illuminated by concealed troughs.

The Opera auditorium is similar in character architecturally to the Grand Foyer; it has walls of walnut wainscoting and ornamental plaster, and an ornamental plaster ceiling.

The layout of boxes is unusual, consisting of two rows which follow the curve of the balcony, and are not in the horseshoe design ordinarily used in major opera houses.

The general lighting of the auditorium is accomplished by light thrown from concealed coves in eight panels of the ceiling and supplemented by additional coves placed at the bottom of the balcony and box rails. This is a new departure in the lighting of large theater auditoriums.

On the stage itself, the most highly equipped stage ever erected, will be an intricately constructed switchboard which will be operated by one man, who will be himself an artist. All the controls will be on one keyboard for the play of lightning effected on the entire house.

Along Wacker Drive is a covered colonaded portico nearly 400 feet long, which will serve as a protection to patrons arriving at and departing from the Opera. The long "landing space" will make it possible to handle a great number of automobiles at one time, an important feature in this day and age. There will be attractive shops along this portico and at the center of it is the office building entrance.

The main portion of the Office Building, 21 stories high, contains 525,000 square feet of rentable area, and the 21 story tower contains 215,000 square feet of rentable area, making the total of 740,000 square feet. There will be 26 high-speed elevators of the latest design, 10 local, 8 express, and 8 for serving the tower portion exclusively.

Our work is only partly done; the erection of the building is now fairly under way and nearly all of the contracts have been closed. There is of course a great deal yet to be done, but we now look forward confidently to the final completion, and we hope when the doors of this great edifice are thrown open that it will meet with your full approval and with the approval of the people of Chicago, who have so nobly supported the enterprise.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The formal reports of the various standing committees of the Society were published in the June issue of the Bulletin. At the annual meeting, the chairman of each committee was called on by the presiding officer to make a short verbal report.

The only reports that the Editor is able to publish in detail are the following:

Mr. E. S. Hall, Chairman of the Publication Committee, said in part:

"Your Committee on Publication begs to state that its report containing some 950 pages of closely printed matter consisting of the annual 'Handbook,' monthly 'Bulletin' and various blanks and legal documents intended as a panacea for all of the ills of the architect, is too extensive to be read at this time.

"Your Committee consists of one man and three editors, an organization fearfully and wonderfully made. The man is LLEW-ELL-YN which means 'Llew' lengthened to the

'N'th power and used as a binder to tie the three editors together.

"Concerning the editors, puny words fail of description. When they meet to fumigate the conglomerate presented for publication by 'ye constant reader,' there is no lack of sulphur for disinfecting purposes. 'DAVID'S SON' like his distinguished predecessor, breathes the last word in wisdom. He has a smeller for graft that will penetrate 4-in. armor plate. Ralph has a 'HARRASSED' expression. He has not had so long editorial experience and is therefore not so well trained in the editorial art of being cussed. His experience has been longer on the other side of the fence.

"Concerning the other editor member, at least he can do no harm since nobody ever reads his stuff except authors who have had their contributions bifurcated of both introduction and propaganda—author feelings are not important anyway."

Mr. Melville C. Chatten, Chairman of the Public Action Committee, stated:

"The Public Action Committee can report a busy year, with frequent meetings, much correspondence and a feeling that something worth while has been accomplished.

"When one is first asked to serve on this Committee he might think that the duty of the Committee is to stir the Public to action. He will soon feel, however, that it is the sole ambition and pleasure of each member of the Society to stir the Public Action Committee to action by giving it plenty to do.

"He will find that nearly all complaints of every description are referred to this Committee and will begin to think that the Committee is the Clothes Line of the Society on which to hang everything that needs an airing.

"Or, he may feel that it is the unfortunate umpire at whom all the pop bottles of dissatisfaction are thrown after a decision is made.

"Or, the unpopular referee who in a case of dispute between two architects must, figuratively speaking, hold one architect by the coat tails, while the other, the right one, gets away with the job.

"But then the Committee member will find that there is real work to undertake.

"He will learn that there are some practicing architecture here in the state without a license.

"That there are construction magazines and Building Reports giving the title of architect to some not licensed to practice.

"Or, the Committee's attention may be called to a case of gross incompetence in the practice of architecture where public safety requires that an effort be made to have a license revoked.

"There are real differences of opinion between architects as to the application of the Code of Ethics in actual practice and a careful investigation of the facts must be made before a decision can be reached.

"There are times when the Department of Registration and Education must be urged to investigate and follow through cases brought to the attention of the Department."

Mr. I. K. Pond, F. A. I. A., Past President A. I. A. and Past President of the I. S. A., author, critic, artist, orator and architect, the youngest middle-aged man in either society, Chairman of the Resolution Committee, said in part:

"Mr. President—friends—Members of the Society—I arose this morning chock full of good resolutions—to find it raining. I broke one of the resolutions immediately. In spite of a feeling that rain would be all right for the Drake, I resolved that we had had enough rain—evidently the resolution would have carried—and as you know the sun dried up the rain. As I sat enjoying the prospect in this spacious, open room, I was minded of the meeting of the Chapter two weeks ago this night, in a stuffy club dining room containing a small crowd and two piers 6 ft. by 8 ft. plan dimensions. There were brilliant orators, Dr. Howgy Walker, Mr. Granger and myself, but it was tough to have to talk to that bunch of peers! And so I resolved to bring in this resolution: that the architectural societies do not hold annual meetings in club houses. However I make a reservation in favor of one downtown club. It has a wide

open house, wide open from cellar to garret, and there must be bodies of liquid in it—I saw the shores through the windows.

"It was not expected that the other Committee chairmen would have time or ability to make coherent reports this evening, and the president has asked me to elucidate the themes of the various reports. They are printed in the Bulletin which I hold in my hand and I could read them to you in their entirety—but I won't. There is so much good readable stuff in the Bulletin and so little trash that I have come to the conclusion that its editor really edits; more power to him. Outside his committee report Emery Stanford Hall has some good stuff in this issue. It is an essay on First Things First, and he cites forty first matters and sows and such. The only important first he has omitted, so far as I can see, is one which Al is making popular in the East just now: First in War—first in pieces. Perhaps Mr. Hall did not feel that he could maintain that thesis in the light of the fact that so many of our own number were early in the war and came out with whole skins. There's Col. Hammond, for instance, and Capt. Urbain—and—and Maj. Sierks and many others whose names do not come readily to my tongue.

"Because nobody else seems to have had the gumption to do it, I present a resolution of thanks to the outgoing officers for the splendid, energetic work they have done for the Society and the profession during this past year. If you want to make a guess at the amount and quality of the work accomplished read the Bulletin which I still hold in my hand. I want to congratulate the Society on the incoming officers, especially on its new president—his will be a clean **White** administration. Mr. Stanhope says "presidents come and presidents go" and he tries to solace himself with that thought. But I can welcome him into the ranks of the immortals—for past-presidents go on forever. If there are more resolutions you would have me introduce, speak now or forever after hold your peace."

THE ARCHITECTS' CLUB

The Trustees of the Architects Realty Trust who represent the Proprietary members of The Architects' Club of Chicago, the owners of the club property, will on August 1 resume payment of the semi-annual dividends to the holders of the Participating Certificates in the Realty Trust. This will be welcome news to many of the Proprietary members of the club who one year ago acquiesced in the suggestion of the Trustees that the Realty Trust loan the club the funds necessary for the rehabilitation of the club dining-room.

If every Proprietary member of the club had performed his full duty to the club in response to the suggestion of the club officials and had secured an application of only one regular member of the club, the Trustees of the Realty Trust would have been able before this date to have mailed checks to the Proprietary members for the dividends that were temporarily deferred.

As a matter of fact, very few Proprietary members secured an application. For the information of architects who are members of the club, the Bulletin wishes to record the fact that since January 1, 41 regular members have been added to the club roster. Members of the club, however, must not overlook the fact that what is true with all organizations is true with regard to this club, and that is, that there are always a number of losses to the club membership due to deaths or resignations or members failing to pay their dues, compelling the Board of Directors under the by-laws to drop their names from the roster.

Unquestionably, the club has justified its formation. It is a real factor in the professional and business life of Chicago. The regular Thursday luncheons are being attended by a greater number of members and the facilities of the club are being more generally used for private functions by members of the club.

Recently the Board of Directors authorized the issuing of guest tickets to each member of the club in good standing. It is hoped that each member will make good use of these tickets. There is no better way to interest a prospect than

to hand him a guest ticket and persuade him to visit the club.

The club recently joined with the Chicago Chapter, A. I. A., and the Illinois Society of Architects in assuming the responsibility for the expense of the annual traveling scholarship of the Architectural Sketch Club. In the future, the jury judging the award will be appointed by the presidents of the three architectural societies.

The club will within a very few months put into effect a plan for the annual award of craftsmanship medals. This award by the club will be independent of the project that Mr. Holsman is now working on in cooperation with Mr. Ludlow of New York.

Proprietary members of the club should also know that the enhancement of realty values on the South Side has resulted in materially increasing the real value of their participating certificates.

The plan of club organization, of course, anticipates that after a period of years the participating certificates will be practically owned by the club itself, thus each regular membership in the club will financially become more valuable as time passes. If members of the club will only devote a little time to the work of securing desirable new members, the roster of the club can be filled within thirty days and a waiting list established.

A PROTEST THAT WAS AT LEAST READ

On April 25 the Architects' Club of Chicago by formal vote adopted a formal protest against the agreement existing between the Journeymen Plasterers and the Journeymen Painters as is evidenced by the communication sent to each organization by authority of the club.

Gentlemen:

It has come to the attention of the Architects' Club of Chicago that an agreement exists between the journeymen plasterers and the journeymen painters, which was negotiated and entered into between these two parties and which affects the free and unrestricted trade in the Building Industry, the home owners and occupants of public buildings, stores, commercial buildings and domiciles, and is detrimental to the best interests of those concerned.

We refer to AGREEMENT OF JURISDICTION, effective February 16, 1928, between the Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers International Association and the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America.

The agreement does not permit architects a free choice of materials without causing unwarranted expense to the building public, and building occupants, and it harbors in it many possibilities for jurisdictional strikes and stoppage of work as past experiences have shown when two or more trades claim work similar in final desired effects, and it is against the American principle of freedom of contract, and especially freedom of contract without consent or voice.

The members of the Architects' Club of Chicago protest this arrangement as they feel it is uneconomic and wasteful to impose upon owners expenditures they do not need or desire, and reserve for themselves the right to say how a wall or ceiling shall finally be finished; and the employers of the labor contracting for such work should insist on the right as to who should do this work in the most economic and practical way, and that it is not a matter of bartering between trade unions.

We are, therefore, instructing our members to disregard the agreement between Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers International Association and the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America and specify and contract for their work where they can best procure same in the most efficient, practical and economic manner, as they were not consulted in the making of this agreement, nor had they opportunity to express their convictions or desires and protest the abridgment of their rights of contracting for their work in a manner best suited to the efficacy of their decorative and embellishing problems.

We trust that the Employing Plasterers' Association as well as the Painting Employers' Association will not coun-

tenance the incorporation of the article mentioned in their agreement with their employees.

Sincerely,

ARCHITECTS' CLUB OF CHICAGO,

CARL E. HEIMBRODT, Secretary.

The following acknowledgment of this protest was received from the Secretary of the Brick Layers' International.

BRICKLAYERS, MASONS AND PLASTERERS
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA

Headquarters
Boss & Phelps Bldg.,
1417 K St., N. W.

Washington, D. C.
June 6, 1928.

Mr. Carl E. Heimbrot, Secretary,
Architects Club,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

We have observed the protest of your organization against the working agreement between the Operative Plasterers & Cement Finishers International Association and the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America and desire to advise you of our being in harmony with said protest.

Notwithstanding the fact that there is an excess of 30,000 plasterers holding membership in the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union of America, the working agreement against which your Association has seen fit to protest was consummated without any consideration being given to the plastering membership of the B. M. & P. I. U. of A.

In our opinion all interests that are mutually affected should be given consideration before any such a working agreement is made effective or operative. We, therefore, wish to advise you of our likewise protesting against the working agreement herewith referred to.

Very truly yours,

JOHN J. GLEASON, Secretary.

MORE ABOUT ADVERTISING

"We are advertised by our loving friends," was the slogan used with great effect by Mellins' Food back in the old days when livery stables flourished and bock beer flowed from every hydrant. It is noticeable, however, that the astute makers of infants' food chose to supplement the kind words of their friends with a few well directed ads of their own, evidently believing that too much of a burden should not be placed on friendly aid.

Architects, however, seem to be complacently willing to let the whole burden of educating the building public fall upon those agencies whose benefit is less direct than their own. Radiator companies, paint manufacturers, roofing material dealers and a dozen kindred agencies have in the past assumed the duty of explaining to the public (at so much a column inch) why they should demand architectural services when building. Lately the "American Architect" has taken up the job and is running in "House and Garden" and similar publications, paid publicity for the profession. And now, here in Grand Rapids, the new monthly of the Associated Building Employers, takes their whole inside cover to explain to the builder why architects' services are valuable alike to owner and contractor. This is a refreshing instance of the new spirit in the industry and of an indication of closer co-operation in the future on the part of the two classes who are absolutely indispensable, each to the other—the architect and the contractor. But it seems to us that it is almost time for the architects of Grand Rapids to take steps to assist in the work that others have been doing for them.

In another column we reprint what a writer in "Architecture" has to say on the subject. There is no doubt that individual advertising on the part of architects is futile, leaving the question of ethics out of it. No one with the interests of the profession at heart wishes to see the architects engage in a race to see which one can engage the largest amount of space in which to recommend himself highly to the public. Such instances of this as we have seen

have not been so impressive as to beguile anyone of normal intelligence into following suit. It is doubtful if all the individual advertising of this nature that architects have done in the last ten years has produced any appreciable results.

The question is not to advertise for the aggrandizement of any of us individually, or (except indirectly) to put money in our pockets. It is to attempt to inform the public as to what an architect is, what he does, and why what he does is worth money in dollars and cents to every man or woman who builds anything whatever. The results from this type of educational publicity will be slow, but they will be lasting, and it would be a singularly poorly informed architect who would argue that there is no need for this type of education.

The architects of this city will have an opportunity in the near future to decide whether or not they will engage in a program of this sort. Let us hope that we can lay aside all prejudices and personalities, and attempt for once to work together for the good of the profession to which we owe so much and for which in the past we have done so little to interpret its meaning to the public.

—Editorial, June issue Architectonics.

"Advertising is a lot of junk literature written by a professional know-nothing who writes about silk stockings on Monday, bon bons on Tuesday, Church building programs on Wednesday, alternating double-induction hot shot transformers on Thursday, etc., etc.—all a lot of poor belles—letters that fill up the papers, and that scarcely no one reads and that eventually becomes perfectly lovely wrapping paper—this is Advertising. It has its place in constantly keeping a name or slogan before the eyes of the public, but beyond that it is hopeless.

* * * *

"Publicity includes advertising and in addition to advertising, and primarily, Publicity is the sort of material which is presented under the guise of informative or instructive reading matter; written by an expert in his line who dares to sign his name, illustrated by examples executed by those who also are unashamed to sign their names; and read by those hungry to learn. This type of publicity travels in three vehicles as indicated by C. Stanley Taylor in the April 'Forum.' We know of no better division. There's the Architectural Journals, the Specialty Journals and the Daily Newspapers."

—From Official Paper, Indiana Society of Architects.

COULD THIS HAPPEN IN CHICAGO?

The following is a reprint of a full page display advertisement in the first issue of "The Toastmaster," the new monthly magazine printed by the Associated Building Employers of Michigan.

"What is a set of plans?

Is it a lot of blue paper with white lines on it?"

Decidedly not. A well prepared set of plans, and the accompanying specifications, represent many hours of careful work to create a structure which can be built economically and which will serve its purpose efficiently.

We, as builders, know this to be true, and yet, there is nothing that the buyers of buildings are so ignorant about as the service given by an architect.

It's part of our job, as builders, to educate people, as to the value of the architect's service. If every prospective builder would go to a good architect, he would receive more for his money, and we would have more jobs to bid on.

And, good plans will automatically eliminate much bad competition.

Don't say to your prospective customer: "You don't need plans." Recommend a good architect to him.

Busy architects' offices mean work for us."

ASSOCIATED BUILDING EMPLOYERS,
404 Grand Rapids Natl. Bank Bldg.
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Imagine, if you can, some of the engineering contractors and speculative builders cooperating with the legitimate building contractors of Chicago in a similar movement.

TO PLAY OR NOT TO PLAY

"One of the major desires of human beings is leisure, the privilege of loafing.

"In South America, for example, traders from Europe were once buying native-made baskets of a peculiar kind. The demand exceeded the supply so the traders raised the price to the makers hoping to stimulate them to turn out more. Exactly the opposite result was achieved. The natives worked fewer hours, made fewer baskets, and received the same money. That was all the money they wanted. It supplied their simple wants. Having filled their stomachs they preferred idleness.

"Our first reaction to this incident is 'What a worthless lot of loafers!'

"But if we will think a little longer about it we will perceive that the South American peasants are not much different from the rest.

In the lives of most of us there comes a point where we choose between money and other desirables. Having achieved a satisfactory standard of living, labor strives for shorter hours. Men prefer the eight-hour day to the twelve-hour day, even though time and a half or double time is paid for the extra hours. For this attitude workingmen are often condemned.

"Yet the man who plays golf three afternoons each week, and who begins his week-end on Friday and concludes it Monday noon is much like the village carpenter who refuses to let business interfere with fishing.

"The big business man says that his golf and long vacations keep him fit, and enable him to do more work in less time. There's just a grain of truth in that, but most golfers and fishers and hunters and travelers are perfectly willing to let some income go in exchange for what cannot be purchased by earning more money, and that is leisure to play.

"When a man has satisfied his living standard he becomes critical of opportunities to add to his income. If he is making \$5000 a year and is comfortable he will hesitate to accept a job at \$6000 if this involves too much personal discomfort.

"It's just human nature—and maybe common sense."

—The Latch String.

THE CHICAGO BUILDING CODE

The Committee working on the suggested revision of the Chicago Building Code is said to be making some progress. Perhaps by the time the present administration is ready to go out of power, the committee may be able to report, which will obviously mean that the entire matter will again be referred to another committee who will probably take three or four years to revise the work of the present committee and this procedure may be assumed to continue indefinitely, so that architects and builders may presume that the present out-of-date Chicago Building Code will still be the law of the city for a good many years.

Just as an example of what this antiquated document means to the city, the *Éditeur* wishes to record a recent incident in connection with his own personal practice. Some weeks ago one of the largest manufacturers of a special building material in the United States concluded to construct a branch factory in the Chicago territory. They required considerable land, as well as good shipping facilities. Labor conditions in the Chicago territory were assumed to be satisfactory and the aid of realtors was enlisted in an attempt to secure an option on a satisfactory piece of property to be improved.

The Managing Director of the concern, however, concluded to have an investigation made to determine fairly accurately how much more their plant would cost if constructed within the Chicago territory as compared to the cost if constructed outside of the boundaries of the city.

The building contemplated was a multi-storied fireproof building of very heavy construction and on account of manufacturing conditions it was necessary to have the building designed with very large floor areas. The writer was called in in a consulting capacity and was compelled to advise his client that the buildings contemplated if constructed within the Chicago territory would cost approximately 15% more than if similar buildings were constructed outside of the Chicago territory, and in making up this

estimate the limitations of the Chicago Code were considered not only as to fire walls, but unit stresses on structural materials, fire windows, stairs, etc. With the buildings constructed outside of the Chicago territory good modern architectural practice only was considered.

The buildings would be sprinklered in either case, and as a matter of fact, insurance interests quoted a lower rate on the plant outside of Chicago even with larger floor areas than they did on the proposed Chicago plant.

What the committee having charge of the revision of the code should do is to make some immediate recommendations to bring certain chapters of the code more nearly in accord with modern practice, as every architect will agree that owners are today being severely penalized for constructing some classes of buildings within the Chicago territory.

TEMPLES ON TEMPLES

"The architect's drawing of the proposed house for the Hellenic Arts club was reproduced in the real estate section last Sunday. The club, it was said, is being organized among men of Greek blood in Chicago. A site somewhere near the center of the city is being sought.

"The drawing, in the words of the real estate page, shows a building which 'would take the form of a sort of glorified Greek temple or rather a series of them piled on top of each other. . . . The second floor is to form a base for a Doric colonnade extending to the sixth floor, flanked at the top with a frieze. . . . From the twenty-second to twenty-sixth would be a transition base with a Corinthian colonnade. The tower is to be in the shape of a Greek cross with arms offsetting every fourth floor.'

"It is our misfortune that the ancient Greeks did not know steel construction. If they had, with their sense of proportion and of elegant line, to say nothing of decoration, they would have saved the present generation of architects a good many headaches and mistakes. As it is, our builders must borrow cautiously from the ancients. It may be possible to place one Greek temple atop another and get a pleasing result from the combination, but the odds are all against it. The first Greek columns were tree trunks and the first Greek temples were built of wood. When the wood rotted, it was replaced with stone. Greek architecture never departed far from its origins and the style does not lend itself readily to lofty structures. There is no more reason to expect good results from piling temple upon temple than from piling statue upon statue. Venus would not show to better advantage if she stood on top of the Victory.

"The desire of the Hellenic club to make its building express racial origins is understandable, but it is architecturally as ill-advised as most attempts to express sentimental ideas or fancies in the exterior of a building are likely to be. There have been a number of mistakes of that sort recently in Chicago. The most conspicuous one at the moment is the Shriners' Athletic club. This is a building rising some forty stories from Michigan avenue with a Mohammedan dome and minaret on top. The Mohammedan architecture of north Africa was not conceived as a soaring architecture. It may well have had its origin in the use of adobe or mud walls to protect men from the desert sun. The lofty minaret or muezzin tower was an afterthought inspired by religious or military considerations of no significance in our world. A style developed from such material does not lend itself readily to modern buildings of great height."—Editorial in Chicago Sunday Tribune, July 1.

May we suggest that the comments and criticism of the Tribune are very much to the point?

ARCHITECT'S ACTS BIND OWNER

"It is important for contractors to be informed of the legal liability of an owner for the acts of his architect.

"In Davis v. Bush & Lane Piano Co. (265 P. 417), it was disclosed that a contractor entered into a written contract with an owner to furnish 'all the labor and materials and to do all things necessary for the proper construction and completion of the work,' according to certain plans and specifications which were attached to the contract. Later the owner verbally agreed to pay the contractor the cost,

plus 10%, of certain additions not specified in the written contract.

"When the contractor completed the work the architect issued certificates authorizing final payment. The owner refused to pay the balance contending that the structure was defective. The owner contended that since he had never given the architect authority to finally approve the work, he was not bound by the architect's approval and issuance of the certificate. However, it is interesting to observe that the Court held the contractor entitled to full payment and bound by the acts of the architect who approved the work, saying:

"As a general rule the architect is the agent of his employer for the purpose of making drawings and superintending the works. . . . The liability of a principal is not limited to such acts of the agent as are expressly authorized or necessarily implied from express authority. All such acts of the agent as are within the apparent scope of authority conferred on him are also binding upon the principal, apparent authority being that which, though not actually granted, the principals knowingly permit the agent to exercise, or which he holds him, the agent, to possess."

—The American Contractor, June 30.

PROVIDING MORE PARKING SPACE

Jackson Boulevard east of the park is being widened a few feet, the curbs of the street being set back to approximately the outside edge of the sidewalk. This, of course, will provide more and better parking facilities.

It is quite evident that it never occurred to the West Park Commissioners that they could have doubled the traffic capacity of Jackson Boulevard by the simple expedient of issuing an order and having it enforced absolutely forbidding any parking on the boulevard east of the park. Under present conditions, as every driver knows, there is a line of cars parked on each side of the curb practically the entire length of the boulevard, thus restricting the capacity of the boulevard for traffic to two traffic lanes and if one is so unfortunate as to be caught behind a bus or a truck so frequently seen on our west-side boulevards, the delay to traffic is self-evident.

Some day officials in charge of our park systems will attempt to do something to improve traffic conditions by passing an ordinance and enforcing it which will absolutely prevent any parking at any time on any of the leading boulevards. It is no hardship for those now using the boulevards as an open-air garage to drive a few feet further and park their cars on some of the side streets where the traffic is not heavy.

One of the unfortunate results of the widening of Jackson Boulevard is the necessity of removing all of the shade trees from the parkways along this thoroughfare. Had the Park Commissioners delayed the proceeding of the work until later in the season, many of these trees could have been removed to one of the west side parks. Many of the trees, of course, were of no particular value, but there were many noble elms ruthlessly destroyed and the appearance of this driveway without a single shade tree from end to end will prove anything but an inspiring sight to those compelled to use it.

WORTH THINKING ABOUT

"The American Institute of Architects has just passed through another convention crisis in its 'allied arts' campaign. Mural paintings, sculpture and landscape architecture have a place in architecture according to our conception of the art. But how essential are these accessories? A building can be constructed with harmony of color, appropriate ornamentation and exterior settings and satisfy every artistic and utilitarian need without the help of these allied arts. Even with their finest collaboration a building architecturally perfect would not be habitable or usable without heat, water, light and strength. To THE PASSING SHOW these are the essential things that give life to a building the same as the nerves, arterial system and organs make life possible for our bodies.

"Would it not be well for the Institute to give some attention to these essentials and the professions that pro-

vide them? The relations between architects and the various coordinate engineers can be improved and if architects retain their rightful, controlling position, it must be done by a satisfactory relationship. After all, do we not need the poor plumber, steamfitter and electrician more than we do the allied arts? It is time to walk on the ground."

—Mr. A. T. North in *The Passing Show*, June issue,
Western Architect.

"NOTE IS NOT BAR TO LIEN"

"Generally speaking, acceptance by a contractor of any form of payment for work done bars recovery of all other kinds of payments. However, where the owner fails to complete the payment in the agreed form the contractor automatically acquires his original rights. For example, in *Heller v. Zambetti*, 114 So. 780, the question presented the Court was: May a contractor enforce a statutory mechanic's lien for labor and material in the construction of a building after accepting in payment a promissory note?

"In this case the owner refused to pay the note on the contention that the contractor had failed to perform the work agreed upon. When the latter attempted to enforce the mechanic's lien, the owner contended that in accepting payment in form of the note, the contractor had relinquished his right to a lien.

"However, the Court held the contractor entitled to enforce the mechanic's lien irrespective of the unpaid promissory notes, since the suit was instituted before the statutory period for enforcing a lien had expired."

—The American Contractor, June 30.

The Editor is advised that the Illinois Courts have ruled otherwise.

IS THE LOOP OVER-BUILT?

Authorities in a position to know have stated that the loop in Chicago is now over-built. It is alleged that some of the new modern office buildings are less than 25% filled. Space in at least one modern loop office building has been offered as low as \$1.80 per sq. ft. per year, which would indicate that loop rentals as a whole are certainly on the decline.

An authority recently stated that in his opinion it would take ten years before the loop caught up with its present office building construction.

A survey of the apartment hotel situation discloses a somewhat similar condition.

It is quite probable that the near future will show a much greater recession in building than has already developed during 1928. It is reported that in some of the building trades that thousands of men are actually out of work and it is well-known that contractors are today figuring new work at cost or less in order to keep their permanent organizations employed.

The future building outlook may be painted in anything but roseate hues.

CHICAGO'S PAVEMENTS

As everyone knows, the pavements of the boulevards and streets of Chicago are in frightful condition. If the millions collected annually from the wheel-tax and the deposits supposedly made by those opening or disturbing the pavements of the streets and boulevards of Chicago were promptly and economically expended in doing the work for which they are supposedly collected, the frightful conditions of many of our prominent streets would be much improved at least.

A northside taxpayer recently filed a bill for injunction in the courts of Cook County to restrain the city from paying a certain contractor what the bill alleges is an excessive price on repairing one class of pavement. The bill alleges that this work is now costing the city \$8.00 per sq. yd. and that the official records of the Department of Public Works indicate that under the previous administration similar work cost only from \$1.85 to \$1.88 per sq. yd. Is it possible that a private contractor is attempting to make a profit on city work?

THE MICHIGAN WAY

The Michigan State Society, as well as the Architectural Club of Grand Rapids, judging from official publications of the two organizations, seem to be accomplishing a great deal for the good of their profession, as well as the building industry of the state; the Michigan Society succeeding in enlisting the cooperation of the contractors' organizations and the two organizations are apparently working in perfect harmony.

The subject of advertising the profession is one being considered by both organizations.

An editorial in the June issue of *Architectonics*, the official publication of the Architectural Club of Grand Rapids, is well worth reprinting and will be found in another column.

END-MATCHED BOARDS

The Southern Pine Association has just issued a special Bulletin calling attention to the new special grades for end-matched concrete form lumber and for end-matched sheathing and sub-flooring.

In a communication to the Editor from the Manager of the End-Matched Bureau of the Southern Pine Association, he calls attention to the fact that a great many retail lumbermen have not yet stocked end-matched lumber, stating that they do not wish to stock it until there is a demand.

As the lumber can be cut without waste, it would pay architects to investigate the new grades and if convinced that the Southern Pine Association is on the right track, to specify the end-matched material for form work, sheathing and sub-flooring.

A FITTING TESTIMONIAL

At the annual meeting Past President Harry B. Wheelock on behalf of the Board of Directors presented to Leon E. Stanhope, Retiring President, a testimonial, reproduced on the last page of this issue.

President Stanhope in receiving same expressed his gratification and in a most delightful manner referred to his wife as having been his silent and most helpful partner during the entire time while he was president of the Society.

If you would know the fury of a patient man who is aroused, consider the following adjectives which President Coolidge used in his veto of the McNary-Haugen bill:

Amazing	Extraordinary	Overwhelming
Arbitrary	Fantastic	Petty
Autocratic	Fallacious	Precarious
Bad	Fiat	Prejudicial
Bewildering	Flagrant	Preponderous
Bureaucratic	Futile	Prodigious
Camouflaged	Ghastly	Prohibitory
Coercive	Hazardous	Repugnant
Cumbersome	Impossible	Retaliatory
Dangerous	Incompatible	Slovenly
Deceptive	Incredible	Unconstitutional
Delusive	Insidious	Undesirable
Discriminatory	Intolerable	Undue
Drastic	Menacing	Unworkable
Entangled	Objectionable	Vicious
Excessive	Obnoxious	Wasteful

CORRESPONDENCE

Boston, June 28, 1928.
Dear Mr. Davidson:

Your recent statement in your Bulletin about the Lien Law echoed what has been stated by several in our discussions here. I enclose copy of our report and will be interested in your comments.

The Associated General Contractors are distributing it to their members. If you desire additional copies for use in Chicago, let me know.

William Stanley Parker, President Boston Builders Congress.

Winnetka, Ill., July 2, 1928.
Mr. Leon E. Stanhope,
Dear Sir:

The high lights (as the Tribune puts it) of your address

at the Illinois Society of Architects is the keynote of a trend of thought that architects, engineers and artists must take note of if they wish to preserve architecture from the trammels of professional builders and sub-dividers.

The exploiting of land values leaves the home of individuality and culture to the interference of men not schooled in architecture. Hence, the Main Street and stereotyped homes borrowed abortively by professional builders.

My writing you is to encourage the architect to maintain the high standard of the profession and not flirt with professional builders, lowering architecture to ordinary channels of building.

Yours truly,
George Park.

Chicago, July 1, 1928.

To the Architect:

A roof or a guarantee? That is the question that will have to be decided in the near future. Roofing contractors all over this country are asking why they are expected to guarantee their roofs for five, ten, twenty years when the mason, the plasterer, the painter, the carpenter do not give any guarantee whatever. The roofers are going to refuse to give long-time guarantees. Our Association has been asked to take that stand but has not yet done so, but, regardless of associated action, individual roofers will take the matter into their own hands and begin to sell roofs rather than guarantees.

It has got to that point where the guarantee is considered more important than the roof; and the fact is that if the roof is properly laid it needs no guarantee and if it is not properly laid all the guarantees in the world will not keep it from leaking. The integrity of the roofer is the important thing. We all know roofers whose word is as good as any bond and whose roofs stand every test. Their reputation and the fact that they are in business to stay is sufficient guarantee.

The URCA specification calls for the best composition roof that can be laid. URCA roofing materials are the best the market affords. URCA members are the cream of the roofing fraternity in this country. Guarantee or no guarantee, a URCA roof is a safe investment. List of members enclosed.

Very sincerely yours,

United Roofing Contractors' Association.

SIZES

New York City,
April 23.

A far-reaching step toward the gradual elimination of huge wastes in industry and commerce through the replacement of hundreds and often thousands of needless sizes of products in common use by a few scientifically selected sizes, is announced by the American Engineering Standards Committee following a two-year study of the problem by a special committee of scientists and engineers. The report of the special committee, made public today, recommends a scientific system of sizes—called "preferred numbers"—to American industrial executives for a period of practical trial in use.

"The arbitrary and haphazard selection of sizes which is still common practice has led to enormous wastes for everyone concerned, from manufacturer to consumer," the report states, "but the scientific basis for sizes which is now offered to industry can effect the same savings in almost every industry, which has been achieved in the automobile industry through reduction in number of styles. The consequent economies of mass production and interchangeability of parts have made tremendous reductions in price possible."

Some products are manufactured in thousands of sizes when, in fact, comparatively few are necessary, the report continues. The new system can be applied with saving to almost every commodity, from bread to machinery, from handbags to packing cases.

The progression of sizes from the smallest to the largest, scientifically, rather than by chance, and the elimination of slight differences for which no need exists, is the purpose of the "preferred numbers." With this system, as the sizes

become larger, the difference between successive sizes becomes greater. The system is not revolutionary, according to the report, since it is, in principle, in constant use. For example, a purchaser might buy a half ounce or one ounce or two ounces of a drug at the drug store, but he would not buy sixteen and one-half or seventeen ounces. He would instead buy one pound or one and one-half pounds or two pounds. Thus there would be a difference of perhaps a half ounce in small purchases; but since such a small difference would be insignificant in large purchases, the difference is perhaps a half pound or a pound.

The application of this principle to manufacturing where insignificant differences in size are continually found, even in articles of large dimensions, would simplify manufacture, distribution and purchase, the report says. The manufacturer could use fewer machines and apply the principles of mass production with resultant economy. The distributor, needing fewer sizes in his stock, could reduce his inventories and sales costs, and effect numerous attendant economies. The consumer, not faced with slight differences whose purpose he cannot understand or utilize, would find his buying problems simplified, and he would be able to replace worn out or defective material far more easily than at present, according to the report.

Sizes are increased by a fixed percentage under the system of preferred numbers. Thus, if six curtain rods from one foot to ten feet in length, inclusive, are needed, the sizes would be 1, 1.6, 2.5, 4, 6 and 10 feet, respectively, each being sixty percent larger than the next smaller. The same numbers could be used for still larger sizes. Thus, for rubber tubing the standard lengths might be 10, 16, 25, 40, 60 and 100 feet. Larger and smaller numbers are readily obtained by a shift of the decimal point. Likewise, sizes can be spaced close together or far apart, by having 5, 10, 20 or 40 steps between 1 and 10 or between 10 and 100, as the needs of each case may require. The nationwide adoption of this system would increase the degree of interchangeability among goods manufactured in different parts of the country.

The American Engineering Standards Committee, which acted as the central administrative body in the study of preferred numbers, is a national standardizing organization made up of representatives of national associations, industrial groups, and federal government departments.

—American Engineering Standards Committee.

THUMB NAIL SKETCHES

"If the little jobs are done well there are no big jobs."

"Look out for yourself—the other fellow's looking out for himself."

"We all have about the same experiences but we come to different conclusions."

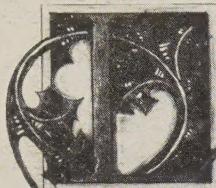
"If you can sleep soundly and digest your food painlessly you're in pretty good shape."

"The greeting, 'How are you and how are you getting along?' is evidence that we all consider life something of a gamble."

"How happy we were in the old days when a two-mile walk in our best clothes on Sunday afternoon was gayly anticipated all through the week!"

The Proposed Standard Lien Act.—In justice to Mr. Victor Mindeleff, the official representative of the A. I. A. on the General Committee, it should be recorded that Mr. Mindeleff voted against retaining Article 5 with its complicated and burdensome provisions.

At the July meeting of the Board of Directors, Mr. Thomas E. Tallmadge was elected a member of the Society and President White immediately appointed him as Chairman of the Committee on Municipal Arts.



LEON EUGENE STANHOPE

President, Illinois Society of Architects
Chicago, Illinois.

ON the termination of your two successive terms of service as President of the Illinois Society of Architects, the Board of Directors in behalf of the Society desires to express the unanimous appreciation for your untiring efforts in the interests of the Society in all of its various branches of work.

The Society has had a steady growth in the last two years and your activities have inspired the various Committees to do the work assigned to them with enthusiasm and seriousness.

Your efforts have given the Society still greater prestige than it has had in the past and we thank you most heartily and wish you health, success and prosperity.

Chicago, Illinois,
June 26, 1928.

Illinois Society of Architects
By the Board of Directors

*Hannaford White
G. S. Henkle
Robt. C. Stetzen
Walter A. M. Dougall
H. L. Palmer*

H. O. Wheelock.

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